

United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development

Community Connect Awards – Iowa

2003 Grant Awards:

City of Ocheyedan, Iowa Ocheyedan, Iowa

Grant Amount: \$136,988

Contact: Kirk D. Grau, 712-754-2523,

County: Osceola

Ocheyedan, Iowa is a rural farm area community located in the northwest Iowa county of Osceola. The effort to bring Broadband service to the community is a citizen driven project looking to improve both economic opportunities and public service. The funds will be used to deploy a broadband transmission service through a special base station to be located on top of the grain elevator located in Ocheyedan. This station, in turn, will enable area residents for an area of approximately five miles to have access to such technologies. The project will establish the Ocheyedan library as a critical community facility, providing access to broadband services to all residents and also providing a series of marketing/promotional/educational activities. The local telecommunication committee consists of area businesses, City Council, school representatives, farmers, the local Cooperative Elevator Association, the Ocheyedan Economic Development Corporation and the County Economic Development Office.

TRX, Inc.

Arlington, Iowa

Grant Amount: \$239,980

Contact: John W. Adams, 319-283-1074

County: Fayette

This project will provide the people in the rural community of Arlington, Iowa highspeed broadband Internet access where is not affordable without this grant. The Arlington Public Library, City of Arlington, Arlington Volunteer Fire and Ambulance Service and Starmont Community School System are community organizations that will participate and benefit from this project. The Arlington Public Library will be the Community Center for the project, providing free public access to ten Computer Access Points. The Library and the applicant, TRX, Inc., will work together to provide computer and Internet training to the public.